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**NEWS RELEASE**

# Judd Gregg

United States Senator for New Hampshire  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**GREGG ANNOUNCES \$6.5 MILLION IN SENATE FUNDING MEASURE TO  
UNH INSTITUTE TO PROTECT, IMPROVE HEALTH OF COASTAL AREAS**

*Measure includes \$2 million for new joint UNH-NOAA Marine Spill Response Center*

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) today announced that the Senate Appropriations Committee has included \$6.5 million in the Fiscal Year 2004 Senate Appropriations measure that funds the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for the Cooperative Institute for Coastal and Estuarine Environmental Technology at the University of New Hampshire. As Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee that oversees funding for NOAA and the Department of Commerce, Senator Gregg was able to include the funding in the Senate Commerce, Justice and State Appropriations bill that passed the Senate Appropriations Committee last week. CICEET is a national institute at UNH whose focus is the application of innovative technologies for the monitoring, management, and prevention of contamination of estuaries and coastal waters.

Senator Gregg stated, "These funds will allow CICEET to continue its critical goal of developing and perfecting cutting-edge technologies with the aim of protecting and restoring environmentally sensitive coastal areas. For example, over the last few years CICEET has begun to evaluate technologies to address the clean up of coastal oil spills and restore contaminated estuaries, like the Great Bay National Estuary, and eel-grass beds. These programs not only benefit the health of the New Hampshire and coastal areas everywhere, but solidify UNH's reputation as a nationally-recognized leader in the field of marine environmental quality."

Dr. Richard Langan, UNH CICEET Co-Director, stated, "I was delighted to hear about the 2004 Senate appropriation for the Cooperative Institute for Coastal and Estuarine Environmental Technology. Coastal and estuarine ecosystems, which provide goods and services worth billions to the US economy, continue to be impacted by pollution and habitat degradation. The changing demographics on our coastlines have given rise to new and complex challenges that require innovative solutions. In the short time since its inception, CICEET's unique approach to problem solving through technology development has resulted in new tools for managing coastal pollution and restoring critical habitat. CICEET's investment in research and technology development has produced new instruments and sensors for detecting and identifying sources of pollution, new treatment technologies for remediating contaminated sediments, and new methods for restoring saltmarsh and seagrass habitats. CICEET efforts have had direct economic impact as well, with a number of research projects culminating in patents and commercialized products. Funding for the CICEET program will allow us to continue to make significant contributions toward preserving and protecting our valuable coastal resources."

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Dr. Jonathan Pennock, Director of the UNH Marine Program, stated, "Senator Gregg has played a key role in the growing recognition of UNH as having one of the leading marine programs in the

Northeast. He has funded a series of highly visible efforts to address key environmental and coastal resource problems, and has shown great confidence in the ability of UNH to contribute to creative solutions. Our students especially have had wonderful opportunities as a result of Senator Gregg's efforts."

CICEET's mission is to integrate academia, the private sector, and federal, state, and local governments in developing and fostering the use of innovative approaches for the long-term management and preservation of the nation's coastal and estuaries ecosystems. CICEET works in conjunction with the National Estuarine Research Reserve System. Senator Gregg has secured \$12.35 million over the last two years for the CICEET program.

The measure also includes \$2 million to create the Center for Marine Spill Response Technology, a joint UNH-NOAA center to develop, demonstrate and evaluate new technologies for the prevention, containment, clean-up, and restoration related to fuel and chemical spills.

Nancy Kinner, Professor of Civil/Environmental Engineering at UNH, stated, "The 2004 appropriation for the new Coastal Response Center, which happened only because of Senator Gregg's vision and commitment to find real solutions to major environmental problems, is an outstanding opportunity for NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration and UNH to focus on the research, technology and education involved with all aspects of spills. Currently there is no national program that conducts and funds research to improve the techniques that promote recovery and restoration of coastal and marine environments impacted by spills. Funding for the CRRC will fill this gap by evaluating promising technologies and fostering their use in a new, integrative approach. Only then, can we hope to create a coherent strategy to address spills instead of responding to each new crisis in a vacuum."

For further information, contact Dr. Jonathan Pennock, Director, UNH Marine Program, (603) 862-2921 or Professor Nancy Kinner at (603) 862-1422.

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